

REMARKS

Claims 1-14, 20-39, and 45-54 are pending in the application. From this group, claims 13 and 46-50 had been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1 and 20-25 are rejected. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, particularly in the failure to establish antecedent basis for use of the limitations "said header first contact", "said header second contact", "said header ground contact", and "said secondary circuit." Claims 20-25 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

Claims 45 and 52 are allowed. Claims 2-12, 14, 26-39, and 54 are objected to. The Examiner noted that claims 2-12 and 14 would be allowable as dependant upon claim 1 once the section 112 rejections as to claim 1 had been overcome. Further, the Examiner noted that claims 26-39, as claims dependant upon claim 20, would also be allowable upon the filing of a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection as to claim 20. Claim 54 was objected to due to an informality, but noted to be allowable after appropriate correction. Applicants thank the Examiner for these indications of allowable subject matter.

Applicants have cancelled previously withdrawn claims 15-19 and 40-44. Claims 13 and 46-51, though withdrawn from consideration by the examiner should be reinstated and deemed allowable due to their dependencies from an allowable generic or linking claim. Specifically, claim 13 depends from allowable claim 12 whereas claims 46-51 depend either directly or indirectly from allowable claim 45. Accordingly, this subset of the previously withdrawn group should be allowed.

Applicants have amended claim 1 such that the limitations described above are renamed and thus have proper antecedent basis. Applicants submit that the rejection is overcome by the amendments made and are thus in allowable form. Further, the phrase "having a secondary connector" has been added to establish antecedent basis for some of the independent claims. Claim 3 has also been amended to address formalities, i.e., consistency in the designations of the header contacts.

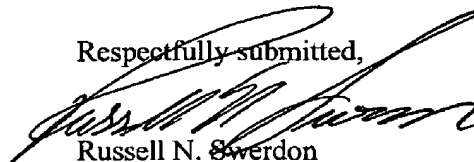
The examiner had rejected claims 20-25 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1,3,4,5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,491,533. Applicants have submitted a terminal disclaimer form to overcome the rejections.

Applicants have further amended claim 54 per the Examiner's suggestion to overcome the rejection. Therefore, applicants submit that independent claims 1, 20, 45 and 54 are in allowable form. Claims 2-14, 21-39 and 46-51 are dependant claims, depending from an allowable independent claim and submitted to be allowable at least due to their dependencies from an allowable claim. In particular, applicants point out that claims 13 and 46-51, were withdrawn from consideration by the examiner as pertaining to a non-elected species. However, dependant claim 13 depends from claim 12 and claims 46-51 depend from independent claim 45. Since these claims depend from an allowable linking or generic claim, they should be reinstated and determined to be allowable.

Conclusion

Accordingly, it is submitted that all issues in the Office Action have been addressed, and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request a prompt passage to issuance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, he is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,



Russell N. Swerdon
Registration No. 36,943

Creative Labs, Inc.
1901 McCarthy Blvd.
Milpitas, CA 95035
(408) 428-6600